

Francis Preston Blair to Andrew Jackson, November 20, 1842, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>FRANCIS P. BLAIR TO JACKSON.

Washington, November 20, 1842.

. . . . Our Travellers all returned safe and sound yesterday, full of their journey and the affection with which they were every where received in the West and particularly at the Hermitage. Betsy has given me a full account of every thing and every body around you. Mrs. Jackson she assures me is fatter and prettier and kinder than ever, and she says that much as I admired the two young ones she took from Washington, her Tennessee boy carries off the prize. Emuckfau, too, she assures me is a paragon. She dilates on her head and features and perfections as if She was some great Belle, who is at some day to make a great sensation, here at Washington among the fashionables. I can assure you that when she does come, she will be well received. I am getting my little farm in fine order. I raised a good crop of corn this year, have a meadow of twenty acres sowed—after being well manured and prepared—ten acres of wheat, ten acres of rye up and looking well. Good dutch barn and stables, Dairy, chicken-house, Turkey-House, Managers house, and an honest old Dutchman and his wife to oversee and take care of things. I bring all my firewood from the farm and a back load of manure goes back daily. a dollar and a dollar and half, is now my usual outlay of a market day. Next year I shall sell a great deal more in the market than I buy in it. The truth is I take great pleasure in providing for my self of the ground and I shall be the happiest fellow in the world when after getting an airing and an appetite by galloping round the neighborhood on Emuckfau, I shall be able to sit down to

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a feast of cream and strawberries—the first drawn from your Durham and cooled in Silver Spring.

Yr. af. friend